



## VISION STATEMENT

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is the leader in rehabilitation therapies available to the nation's injured Veterans. VA believes that healing the entire person is the most effective way to bring about positive change. Rehabilitation events specifically designed for healing the entire person allow eligible Veterans to gain motivation to reach their full potential, improve their independence, achieve a healthier lifestyle and enjoy a higher quality of life. Participating in activities that are exciting and fun reinforces to our nation's heroes that they can successfully adapt to their new lives after an injury, discover new interests and continue to participate in many activities they enjoyed in the past. These are the goals of the National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic.

The Summer Sports Clinic utilizes adventure sports and recreational activities such as sailing, surfing, track and field events, kayaking and cycling (hand and tandem), to those who were recently injured. Complimenting the therapy provided in daily rehabilitation programs, the Clinic shares a glimpse of the many exciting recreational opportunities awaiting those Veterans who accept the challenge. With the variety of water and summer sports available at the Clinic, this week-long journey hosts Veterans from all over the country who have a variety of injuries, ranging from traumatic brain injury and polytrauma, to spinal cord injury or loss of limb. Its fundamental purpose is to provide early intervention for Veterans battling back from injury, not only strengthening their bodies but overcoming and improving their overall being and self-worth.

The VA San Diego Healthcare System offers the Clinic a tremendous base of operation with its comprehensive medical and rehabilitative expertise. San Diego is the perfect host and location for the event.

In addition to the Summer Sports Clinic, VA currently sponsors or co-sponsors five other national rehabilitation events each year: the National Veterans Wheelchair Games; the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic; the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival; the National Veterans Golden Age Games and the National Veterans TEE Tournament.